



## WYOMING LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE

# Memorandum

**DATE** June 8, 2022

**TO** Subcommittee on Legislator Compensation, Members

**FROM** Anthony Sara, Legislative Support Manager

**SUBJECT** Legislator Compensation

Below is a comprehensive overview of the current compensation members of the Wyoming Legislature receive.

### ***Session Compensation:***

- If residing outside of Cheyenne, legislators are paid mileage to and from session, currently at 0.585¢ per mile. This is subject to change depending on the federal rate.
- During session, legislators living outside Cheyenne have the option of being paid round-trip mileage for one trip home each week.
- All legislators are paid \$150/day salary for each day they are in Cheyenne for session, including weekends.
- Legislators living outside Cheyenne are paid \$109/day per diem for travel to and from session.
- All legislators are paid \$109/day per diem for each day they are in Cheyenne for session, including weekends. For Cheyenne legislators, per diem paid during the session is taxable.

### ***Interim Committee Meetings:***

- Legislators are paid \$150/day salary for each day of an interim committee meeting.
- Legislators who must travel to attend a meeting are paid round-trip mileage.
- Per Statute legislators are paid \$109/day per diem for each day of the meeting.
- Per Statute, legislators who must travel extra days to attend a meeting are paid \$109/day per diem the day before the meeting and the day after the meeting.

- Legislators who must travel to and from a meeting are paid half-day salary for each travel day that does not fall on a meeting day.
- Legislators are paid an additional salary to prepare for interim committee meetings at the rate of half-day salary for each day of the meeting. Pre-session budget hearings of the Joint Appropriations Committee are excluded.
- Legislators have the option of waiving all or a portion of their per diem.
- Under federal tax law, some portion of per diem payments may be taxable.
- Members serving as legislative liaisons to various Executive branch boards and commissions receive the same reimbursement as outlined for interim committee meetings. Prep salary is authorized provided an agenda is included with the travel reimbursement form.

***Monthly Salaries When Not in Session:***

- During month when the Legislature is not in session, legislators receive a monthly salary of:
  - Presiding officers: six days' salary at \$150/day.
  - Majority and Minority Floor Leaders and Committee Chairmen: four days salary at \$150/day.
  - Other members: two days' salary at \$150/day.

***Constituent Service Allowance:***

- Each member will automatically receive \$750 per quarter. This payment is intended to cover expenses incurred by the legislator in serving his or her constituents. The payment is treated as taxable income, however, the legislator may be able to claim certain expenses as deductions for federal income tax purposes.

***Out-of-State Travel:***

- Legislators are reimbursed actual expenses for registration, travel, meals and miscellaneous expenses for authorized travel to attend approved out-of-state education meetings. Meal reimbursement is currently limited to \$30/day. These expenses are reported in the LSO Annual Report.

***Miscellaneous:***

- Legislators may participate in the Wyoming Retirement System 457 Deferred Compensation Plan, which is a tax advantaged retirement investment vehicle. Legislators under the age of 50, a \$20,500 maximum annual contribution is allowable. For those over the age of 50, the maximum yearly contribution allowed is \$27,000. Legislators may elect to contribute a specific dollar amount or a percentage of legislative pay up to the annual limits.
- Legislators may be reimbursed up to \$30/month for internet access.

**WYOMING LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE *Memorandum***

- During session, legislators are provided free postage for legislative mailings.
- Beginning in January 2023, legislators will be eligible to enroll in the State's workers compensation program.
- There are also a variety of other free resources offered to state employees that legislators may be eligible to take advantage of through the Wyoming Department of Administration and Information, such as the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).